

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT KS

SUBJ: EMERGENCY MEASURES: ARREST AND RELEASE OF SUSPECTS

REF: SEOUL 0634

1. SPOKESMAN FOR PROSECUTION OF EMERGENCY GENERAL COURTS-MARTIAL ANNOUNCED JAN 26 THAT SEVEN STUDENTS OF YONSEI UNIVERSITY WERE CHARGED ON JAN 24 WITH VIOLATING EMERGENCY MEASURE NO. 1. ANNOUNCEMENT GAVE THE SUSPECTS' NAMES, BUT NO PARTICULARS CONCERNING THEIR OFFENSES.

2. COURTS-MARTIAL SPOKESMAN SIMULTANEOUSLY ANNOUNCED RELEASE ON JAN 26 OF FOUR OF ELEVEN CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISTS WHO HAD BEEN ARRESTED AND CHARGED UNDER EMERGENCY MEASURES. THE FOUR RELEASED INCLUDED TWO EVANGELISTS, AN ASST PASTOR, AND A STAFF MEMBER OF YONSEI UNIVERSITY URBAN PROBLEMS RESEARCH CENTER. SPOKESMAN SAID THEY WERE RELEASED BECAUSE THEY "DISPLAYED REPENTANCE" DURING INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE.

3. COMMENT: FACTS OF PROTEST MEETING AT YONSEI
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WHICH WAS OCCASION FOR ARREST OF STUDENTS STILL
NOT PUBLICLY REPORTED. ANNOUNCEMENT OF RELEASE OF
CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISTS APPROPRIATELY REFLECTS GOVT'S
INTENTION DESCRIBED REFTEL TO RELEASE THOSE WHO
AGREE TO DISIST WHILE PROSECUTING THOSE WHO PERSEVERE
IN OPPOSING YUSHIN CONSTITUTION. ONE SOURCE HAS INDICATED
FOUR CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISTS SIGNED AMBIGOUSLY
WORDED STATEMENT WHICH DID ALLOW GOVT TO STATE THEY HAD
"DISPLAYED REPENTANCE".
ERICSON

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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